

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## AWARD-WINNING STUDENTS OF CAESAR RODNEY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 1996*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, on April 27 to April 29, 1996, outstanding young people from 50 schools throughout the Nation came to our Nation's Capital to compete in the national finals of the We the People... The Citizen and the Constitution Program. I am proud to announce that the class from Caesar Rodney High School in Camden represented Delaware. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning local competitions in their home State.

The distinguished members of the team representing Delaware are: Nick Amalfitano, Mark Balfantz, Sondra Bell, Pauletta Brown, Jennifer Cajthum, Allison Chippie, Will Cordeiro, Blair Craven, Ryan Dixon, John Dodd, Tom Dodd, Lee Dunham, Shannan Foskey, Joy Ginter, Ron Hartnett, Kristie Hertz, Bonny Hodges, Jason Hutchins, Nikki McBride, Sean McGinty, Peter Morisseau, Tim Rudis, Dan Schoettinger, Andrew Towle, Jennifer VanHorn, Matt Walsh, and Jeff Whisler.

I would also like to recognize their teacher, Bill Windett, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the team. The district coordinator, Diane Courtney, and the State coordinator, Lewis E. Huffman, also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team reach the national finals.

The We the People... The Citizen and the Constitution Program, supported and funded by Congress, is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People... program, now in its eighth academic year, has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 60,000 teachers, 22,000 schools, and 22 million students nationwide.

The We the People... program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective about the history and principles of our Nation's constitutional government. I wish these young constitutional experts the best of luck and look forward to their future participation in politics and government. Congratulations again to the team from Caesar Rodney High School of Camden, DE.

## A TRIBUTE TO P.S. 230, THE RECIPIENT OF THE STATE-WIDE TITLE 1 AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 1996*

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate P.S. 230 as the recipient of the Title 1 Distinguished School Award—one of the highest honors given to a New York school for their demonstrated commitment to academic excellence. The administrators and teachers of P.S. 230 have been dully recognized for their hard work in exceeding the State's standard performance level in both reading and mathematics. Almost every grade level has earned above-average scores in reading. I am particularly impressed by the specialized instruction and attention given to third graders, as they have successfully learned how to read at the sixth level. When recognized these results, it is no wonder that P.S. 230 has been selected for the Title 1 Distinguished School Award.

I am especially honored to pay tribute to the teachers and administrators of P.S. 230 for providing a solid academic base for each student. The entire student body is as culturally and ethnically diverse as New York, which has often created a unique set of hurdles for many elementary school teachers whose primary job is to provide basic reading and communication skills. Yet, P.S. 230 has established a nurturing environment in which to learn, ensuring the future success of every student. As a parent whose daughter is currently enrolled at P.S. 230, I am extremely proud of the entire faculty and PTA for enabling each child to receive a worthwhile learning experience that will stay with them their entire lives. I hope the families and supporters of P.S. 230 will continue its legacy in educational achievement for future generations.

## TRIBUTE TO LOWANDA EMMONS DEEGAN

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 1996*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, we all have extraordinary people in our districts, but there is one incredible lady in the 22nd District of New York who stands apart.

Her name is Lowanda Emmons Deegan, and she is 90 years young. Last Sunday, she received her bachelors degree from the State University at Albany. In other words, Mr. Speaker, she was 68 years old when most of her fellow graduates were born. She truly earned the right to lead the graduation procession.

Lowanda Emmons Deegan could say, as the song goes, "I did it my way." She took

one course a semester for the last 20 years. In recent years, since a fall injured her knee, she has had some trouble getting around and has done much of her studying over the phone.

But that's been one of the few concessions she had made to her age. In fact, the remarkable thing about her, as far as I'm concerned, is her attitude. She is truly young at heart, and spends her time dwelling on the future, not on the past.

It isn't though her past isn't interesting, Mr. Speaker. She graduated from high school in the early 1920's, finished fifth in the "Miss Schenectady" contest shortly after graduation, and then worked in a number of positions until retiring in 1975. She was a social worker during the Depression, a switchboard operator and accountant for General Electric Co., and, finally, a clerk at the New York State Library. Her husband and only son are both deceased.

She was determined to make the most of those retirement years. She remembered getting good grades in writing projects in high school, so she began writing a family story titled "Susie's Chronicles," named for her grandmother, Susie Emmons. Her ancestors included some of New York State's earliest settlers. Her English teachers have been impressed by the first drafts of the book, and have expressed confidence that the book will find a publisher. I'm looking forward to its publication, and I'm sure it will be popular with the general reading public.

Lowanda Emmons Deegan reads two newspapers a day and often writes to me about issues of interest to older Americans.

Mr. Speaker, her attitude is what has made this the greatest country on Earth. Many people stop trying to improve themselves after a certain age and settle into a comfortable routine. She has not, and her story is an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and this entire body to rise with me in tribute to an extraordinary lady and great American, Lowanda Emmons Deegan of Ballston Lake, NY, on the occasion of her long-awaited graduation from college.

## HONORING THE ALLONS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Allons Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

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